

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**February 6, 2001**

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Gatsas, Levasseur, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, Vaillancourt, Cashin, Thibault, and Hirschmann

Absent: Alderman Pariseau

Communication from Jean Brassard, President of Local 856, Manchester Professional Firefighters Association seeking the City's assistance with expenses incurred over \$22,000 on behalf of Brother Firefighter David Anderson's funeral.

Mr. Clougherty stated my recommendation is that if the Board is interested in doing something for the Firefighter's Association that you earmark some of the funds in contingency. What that would mean is we would keep an eye on that money. We wouldn't transfer it over to them until the end of the year when we are certain we have it available and if it got the point where that money wasn't available, we would come back to the Board with some other recommendation at that point. In the meantime, you are showing goodwill I think.

Alderman Clancy moved to earmark \$10,000 from Contingency to transfer to the Manchester Professional Firefighter's Association pending availability of funds. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated my understanding is that the Professional Firefighter's union having gone through this are working with the unions in the State so that this problem will not come up in the future but there is no way they can address it now. My understanding is that the firefighters are actually using some relief money to pay these bills.

Mayor Baines replied without speaking to the motion or violating the rules or the Charter or anything else, I think that is a great effort.

Alderman Hirschmann stated the Anderson family is eternally grateful to the Firefighter's Association for what they have done during David Anderson's funeral. I want to correct the record because of the way it is written. The Anderson family paid for David Anderson's funeral. They paid Lambert's Funeral Home a big sum of money. This money is for meals and hotel rooms and expenses of that nature. I just wanted everyone to know that Kathleen Anderson did pay for her husband's funeral.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I was looking forward to voting for this because I do think it is something that we should approve. The amount overwhelms me. I think it is an amount much larger than I would like to do. I was thinking of a goodwill amount of \$1,000 to \$5,000, but \$10,000 is perhaps more goodwill than being a fiscal conservative I can take.

Alderman Cashin stated Alderman Vaillancourt is right. It is a large sum, but this doesn't happen every day. My understanding is that the union is working in some capacity to see that this doesn't happen again and with that in mind, I would recommend the \$10,000. I think it is fair and equitable.

Alderman Clancy stated this money was for the firemen that we housed here at the Center of New Hampshire and for the food. It wasn't for the funeral expenses or anything like that. This is the money for the lunch we put on and stuff like that down at the Center of Hampshire. We had almost 4,000 firefighters here. The City was a host to all firefighters.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated since I am not one of these people who say my way or the highway, I will exceed to your wishes and vote for it.

Alderman Levasseur stated I question whether we are allowed to spend money for this kind of event. I think there was booze involved and beer and wine and such and I don't think we are allowed to pay money for that, your Honor.

Alderman Cashin replied that is coming out of the other \$12,000.

Mayor Baines stated our money will not be used for that.

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

On motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy it was voted to read the Resolution by title only, and it was so done.

Resolution:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) from Contingency to Civic Contributions for a donation to the Manchester Fire Department Memorial Fund.”

On motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted that the Resolution ought to pass and be enrolled.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted that there was a communication distributed from the Board of Assessors with regard to Item #4.

#### **TABLED ITEMS**

**4. Resolution:**

"Amending a Resolution 'Continuation of the Central Business Service District'."

This item remained on the table.

**5. Report of the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration advising that it has accepted the attached open invoice report for School invoices and is submitting same to the Board for informational purposes.  
(Tabled 01/02/01)**

This item remained on the table.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee